PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

To:

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY) (PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

OKADA, FUSHIMI AND HIRANO. PC

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Chivoda-ku Tokyo 1020074 RECEIVED

> AUG. 14, 2006 OKADA, FUSHIMI & HIRANO, PC

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016787

03 August 2006 (03.08,2006)

Applicant's or agent's file reference H1033716WO01

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International filing date (day/month/year) 05 November 2004 (05.11.2004)

Applicant

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HONDA MOTOR CO. LTD. et al.

- I Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.
 - The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).
 - The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).
- 2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

> The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Masashi Honda

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Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70 Form PCT/IB/338 (January 2004)

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

See item 4 below

Priority date (day/month/year)

Masashi Honda

e-mail: pt08@wipo.int

14 November 2003 (14.11.2003)

FOR FURTHER ACTION

International filing date (day/month/year)

05 November 2004 (05.11.2004)

International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated)

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes

1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

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Form PCT/IB/373 (January 2004)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237

International application No.

HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.

PCT/JP2004/016787

H1033716WO01

1.	This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule $44bis.1$ (a).					
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet. In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.					
3.	This report contains indications relating to the following items:					
	Box No. I	Basis of the report				
	Box No. II	Priority				
	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opin applicability	tion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial			
	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	÷			
	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement				
	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	*			
	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the inter	national application			
	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on th	e international application			
4.	 The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis.2). 					
	•					
	8		Date of issuance of this report 24 July 2006 (24.07.2006)			
	The Internation 1 December 1	CHIDO	Authorized officer			

TRANSLATION PATENT COOPERATION TREATY INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1) Date of mailing (day/month/year) Applicant's or agent's file reference FOR FURTHER ACTION H1033716WO01 See paragraph 2 below International application No. International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year) PCT/JP2004/016787 05.11.2004 14.11.2003 International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Applicant HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items: Box No. I Basis of the opinion Box No. II Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial Box No. V applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement Box No. VI Certain documents cited Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application FURTHER ACTION If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later. For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220. Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP Authorized officer

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/016787

Box	No. I Basis of this opinion	
1.	With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.	was
	This opinion has been established on the hasis of a translation from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international scarch (un	der
2.	Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b). With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the clair invention this opinion has been established on the basis of:	ned
	a. type of material a sequence listing	
	table(s) related to the sequence listing	
	b. format of material	
	in written format	
	in computer readable form	
	c. time of filing/furnishing contained in the international application as filed.	
	filed together with the international application in computer readable form.	
	furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.	
3.	In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been file furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the applicatio filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.	d or n as
4.	Additional comments:	
		a

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/016787

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement				
. Statement				
Novelty (N)	Claims 2-7, 9-14;	YES		
	Claims 1, 8	NO NO		
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 2-7, 9-14			
minimize stop (10)	1 0	YES		
	Claims 1, 8	No		
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-14	YES		
	Claims	NO		

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 2001-271699 A (NGK Spark Plug Co., Ltd.), 05 October 2001, paragraph 0024

The inventions of claims 1 and 8 are described in document 1 (paragraph 0024) cited in the ISR; therefore they do not appear to possess novelty or to involve an inventive step.

The inventions of claims 2-7 and 9-14 are neither described in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor are they obvious to a person skilled in the art.